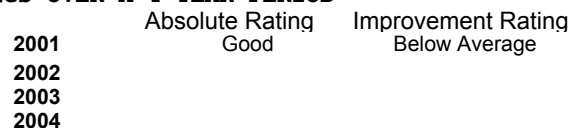


**ABSOLUTE RATING:** Good  
**IMPROVEMENT RATING:** Below Average

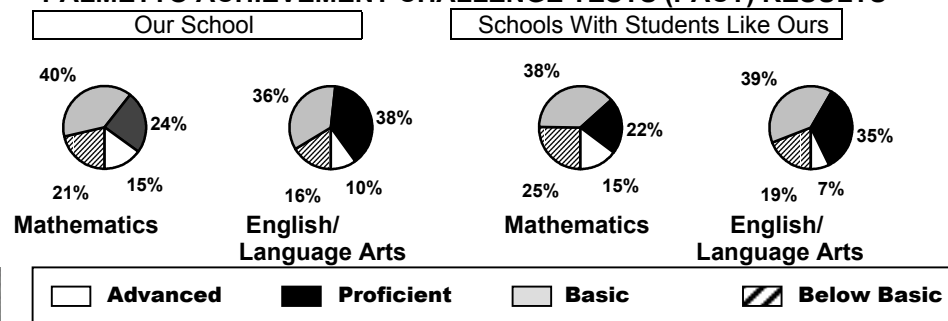
Number of middle schools with students similar to ours: 18. The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from average to excellent. For the improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to average.

#### RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD



(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

#### PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



#### DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

Science scores are to be reported on 2004 School Report Cards. Social studies scores are to be reported on 2005 School Report Cards.

#### PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING BASIC OR ABOVE ON THE PACT

Student Group	English/ Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies
<b>All students (n=575)</b>	83.7%	78.6%	N/A	N/A
Students with disabilities other than Speech (n=50)	56%	46%		
Students without disabilities (n=522)	86.8%	82%		
<b>Gender</b>				
Male (n=281)	81.5%	75.8%		
Female (n=291)	86.6%	81.8%		
<b>Ethnic Group</b>				
African American (n=148)	54.1%	47.3%		
Hispanic (n=4)	N/A	N/A		
White (n=414)	94.4%	89.9%		
Other (n=6)	N/A	N/A		
<b>Lunch Status Group</b>				
Free/reduced-price Lunch (n=123)	56.1%	46.3%		
Pay for lunch (n=449)	91.8%	87.8%		

#### SCHOOL PROFILE INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Middle School
<b>SCHOOL</b>				
• Dollars spent per student	\$4,458	N/A	\$4,778	\$5,127
• Prime instructional time	90.5%	No change	90.8%	89.6%
• Student-teacher ratio	25.3 to 1	N/A	23.4 to 1	21.4 to 1
<b>in core subjects</b>				
<b>STUDENTS (n=623)</b>				
• Attendance rate	95.4%	Down from 96%	96.6%	95.7%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	2.8%	N/A	2.5%	4.5%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (math) off grade level	3.1%	N/A	2.2%	4.0%
• Retention rate	4.7%	N/A	1.7%	4.5%
<b>TEACHERS (n=36)</b>				
• Professional Development days per teacher	8.3 Days	Up from 7.1	7.7 Days	8.0 Days
• Attendance Rate	96.9%	Up from 95.6%	95.4%	95.2%
• Teachers with advanced degrees	55.6%	Down from 60%	53.4%	45.8%
• Continuing contract teachers	80.6%	Down from 90%	84.3%	80.8%
• Teachers with out-of-field permits	2.8%	Up from 0%	1.5%	2.4%
• Teachers returning from the previous school year	N/A	N/A	84.8%	83.7%
• Average teacher salary	\$35,027	Down 1.1%	\$38,659	\$37,455

#### SCHOOL FACTS

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Middle School
<b>SCHOOL</b>				
• Dropout rate	0%	N/A	0%	0.0%
• Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries	64.9%	N/A	62%	61.5%
• Principal's years at the school	2	N/A	2.8	3.0
• Parents attending conferences	28.8%	N/A	65.5%	78.2%
• Opportunities in the arts	Good	N/A	Excellent	Good
<b>STUDENTS</b>				
• On academic plans	N/A	N/A	30.6%	45.8%
• On academic probation	N/A	N/A	0%	0.0%
• Older than usual for grade	3.7%	Up from 2.8%	1.8%	4.5%
• Suspended or expelled	76	N/A	7	15
• Enrolled in high school credit courses	19.3%	N/A	23.6%	13.2%
• Gifted and talented	20%	Up from 18.2%	24.7%	12.1%
• With disabilities other than speech	10.9%	Up from 9.8%	10.9%	13.6%



## PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

Cario Middle School enjoyed its second full school year in 2000-2001. Opening as a new school the previous year was a unique experience - a year during which much of our attention was focused on adapting to the new facility and to establishing the first new middle school in Charleston in many years. In that year, we brought students and teachers from other schools to form a new school family. As anticipated, our school, which opened with an enrollment of five hundred, experienced significant growth and opened in the fall of 2000 with over 620 students and 15 new faculty members.

Although the growth in our community is to be expected, the influx of the number of students and staff members new to Cario Middle School this year presented tremendous challenges. Fortunately, our modern building was designed to absorb a much larger student body. Our first task was to hire new staff members to complement those who had helped to open Cario. With new staff hired, the relocation of teachers and programs had to be accomplished in a short summer to take advantage of the intended design of the building.

The quality of its schools makes our community an attractive destination for relocating families. In our new families, we have seen a desire for high quality education programs. We have continued to work closely with the Town of Mt. Pleasant, sharing facilities and taking advantage of the public services provided by town government. Throughout the year we have worked diligently to promote our new school by participating in a number of academic, artistic, and athletic events. Our students have excelled in all areas. We are particularly proud that our number of Junior Scholars increased from twelve to thirty this year and the number of retentions has been significantly lowered through the efforts of a committed group of teachers. Our PACT scores indicated growth of which we can be proud, with the number of students scoring in the below basic range being reduced at all grade levels.

As we plan for year three, Cario is expecting 750 students and will again be adding about fifteen new teachers to its faculty. We have begun to make a name for ourselves, and we look ahead with confidence in our ability to anticipate growth and use our greater size to increase our quality and to provide better service to our community.

Walt Pusey, Principal

## EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents
Satisfied with learning environment	84.8	58.4	(Avail. 2002)
Satisfied with social and physical environment	90.9	70.2	
Satisfied with home-school relations	81.8	82.0	

## DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

**Excellent** - School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Good** - School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Average** - School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Below Average** - School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Unsatisfactory** - School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

1001103

Thomas C. Cario Middle  
3500 Thomas Cario Blvd.  
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466

Grades 6-8 Middle School

Enrollment: 623 Students

## Principal

Walt Pusey 843-859-4595

## Superintendent

Dr. Ronald A. McWhirt 843-937-6319

## Board Chair

Ms. Elizabeth H. Alston 843-723-0941

## THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School  
Report Card

2001

School Grade:  
Good



## South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at  
[www.myschools.com](http://www.myschools.com)